

**641—82.3(135) Responsibilities of the office of multicultural health.** The office of multicultural health shall provide public health leadership regarding existing or potential issues or practices that can or could affect the health status of racial, ethnic, and linguistic multicultural individuals and families, immigrants and refugees. The office shall provide this leadership through the core functions of (1) education; (2) advocacy; (3) data management; (4) technical assistance and consultation; and (5) training and development. The office is responsible for the following:

**82.3(1)** Promoting continuous cultural competency in health care practice and education throughout Iowa's public health care sector;

**82.3(2)** Collecting and providing valid empirical information on the health status of multicultural groups in Iowa;

**82.3(3)** Advocating for the development of policies and programs that improve the health of Iowa's racially, ethnically and linguistically diverse populations and addressing health disparities that exist within these populations;

**82.3(4)** Providing technical planning assistance to communities and counties throughout the state;

**82.3(5)** Advocating for Iowa's racial, ethnic, and linguistic multicultural communities;

**82.3(6)** Creating and promoting a climate of inclusiveness in the public health sector on state, regional and local levels by partnering with its racial, ethnic, and linguistic multicultural constituents in Iowa to help them improve their collective health status; and

**82.3(7)** Promoting the Iowa public health standards and providing technical assistance and consultation regarding state and local criteria relating to disparate populations and delivery of culturally appropriate services.